



Members discussed many of the points raised and agreed that it very much constituted a wish list, with many of the items perhaps even being luxuries instead of necessities. There were several that they felt members of the public would definitely want and were happy to discover that there would be public meetings where opinions and feedback could be gathered.

Members noted that much needed upgrading of roads for vehicles would have a positive effect for all road users and it was felt that an approach which considers funding from lots of sources to make positive changes for walkers and cyclists as well as vehicles drivers might be worthwhile considering. The Stunken Brae road in Gulberwick was the main example given.

It was decided to try to share the presentation wider and to use social media to try to gather opinions also. The comments and feedback would then be shared either via email, or by inviting the consultants and Mr Hunter back.

ACTION: Mr Hunter to share the presentations and the clerk to try to gather feedback from local groups and the public.

----- Mr Hunter, Ms Ceclaire and Mr Witherford left 8.55pm -----

## **1. MATTERS ARISING**

### 1. Website Building and Ongoing Support

The clerk has indicated that GQC CC would be interested in the offer of the creation of a CC website and ongoing support from Scottish Community Councils Improvement Service. Unfortunately, they were inundated with expressions of interest and we have since heard that we were unfortunate to be one of the ten community councils selected.

### 2. Community Council Training

The clerk shared details of the upcoming Community Council Training courses, reminding members that the planning one was on Saturday. Members to look at training on offer and sign up to any they are interested in if they have not already done so.

### 3. ASCC Meeting

The Association of Shetland Community Councils met on the 14<sup>th</sup> of March. Community Council Liaison Officer Michael Duncan sent out an update following the meeting which has been shared amongst members already.

There was discussion about some of the agenda items and members felt particularly strongly that they would like to know more about the roll out of fibre broadband and worried about the effect that it would have on retaining phone lines. Everyone present felt that one should not happen at the expense of the other, especially considering what happened when the subsea cable was damaged in October, leaving both phones and mobiles not working and creating an emergency situation for the islands.

Cllr B Peterson said that the issue is now being considered as part of emergency planning, following the incident, but members still felt they'd like more information about the issue as a whole. It was decided to invite Marvin Smith, Shetland Telecom's Project Manager to speak at the next available meeting. It was also agreed to add it to the agenda as a fixed item.

ACTION: Clerk to invite Shetland Telecom Project Manager Marvin Smith to the next available meeting and add the issue to the agenda.

### 4. Community Council Scheme Review

Members have been asked by the ASCC to give feedback on the Community Council Scheme Review. Some of the proposals include merging Community Councils, looking at Community Council meetings not requiring elections but instead having public meetings, and considering funding to Community Councils.

There was discussion around all these elements, with note being made of the fact that there had not been an uplift in funding to CCs for many years and how several CCs have little money left now after admin costs to be able to give out any grant funding. Some members said that a review of the financial rules would be needed, perhaps to allow CCs to be able to build up some funds over several years to allow for bigger projects. At present CCs can keep back approximately £1,000 each year.

To give members a little more time to consider their response the clerk will email again in a week to so to ask them for their views and will add any replies to the comments already made, before passing them back to Mr Duncan.

**ACTION:** All members to consider the Community Council Scheme Review and give any feedback to the clerk.

## **2. POLICE REPORT**

There was no report available.

## **3. FINANCE**

The bank statement on March 22<sup>nd</sup> reads £7,529.53.

The transactions in the account outwith the usual are: the purchase of the WiFi Speaker and Microphone recommended by Mrs Arnett at £29.99, the purchase of flowers for the widow of Development Group member David Polson at £37, £6.30 for the clerk's backpay due to island allowance going up by 4p an hour, the purchase of a paper guillotine for £38.70, the three £50 payments for groups completing Da 2022 Voar Redd Up, and the payment for the independent evaluation of accounts from VAS last year which costs £70.

Only £1,279.40 of our grant budget has been spent.

We have approximately £3,300.41 to £4,300.41 still to spend. We are able to keep up to £1,000 of our grant money for next year.

## **4. GRANT APPLICATIONS**

### GQC CC Applications

There were two applications for the Community Council's own funding pot to consider and after deliberation, members decided to award the full amounts requested to each.

Sound Parent Council applied for £500 towards a nature garden and raised beds. This was the £500 shortfall created by awarding a part-award to the group using the SCBF money last month. The full £500 was awarded.

The Gulberwick and Quarff Yoal Club asked for £1,204 towards storage for the yoal and general maintenance after it has been out of the water all through the pandemic. Members awarded the full amount but asked that the club seeks to find a storage facility within their own district.

With the award of these applications there will still be £1,596 left over in the grant budget so members agreed to meet next week for a short funding meeting to consider any last

minute applications which come in before the financial year end. It is likely to be an online meeting and will be on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm.

SCBF Applications

There was only one Shetland Community Benefit Fund Applications to consider, a request for £1,000 towards a disabled toilet and a car park at The Outpost in Burra. Members agreed to award £500 towards the project as it was not in our district.

**ACTION:** Clerk to complete grant application paperwork and award the CC grants via online transfers. All to share the word about grant money and to meet back next week to consider any last minute grant applications.

**5. ROAD ISSUES/CAMPAIGN FOR REDUCED SPEED LIMITS**

There are no updates.

**6. GULBERWICK, QUARFF & CUNNINGSBURGH DEVELOPMENT GROUP UPDATE**

There have been no recent meetings of the group that aims to try to push forward development ideas for the Community Council area. There are a few things happening in the background and as soon as there is anything to update it will be shared with all CC members.

Mr Clark shared that he has to do a climate action project report as part of a course he is attending and has decided to do it on a project which the group could potentially take forward. He will keep everyone updated.

Mrs Christie is going to get the support of Mrs Arnett to find some simple online constitutions for the group.

**ACTION:** Mrs Christie to find some simple template constitutions for the group to look at.

----- Mrs Christie and Mr Peterson left 9.38pm -----

**7. WORKSHOPS FROM SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT IMPROVEMENT SERVICE**

The Improvement Service are working with Sustrans Scotland to offer a series of free online workshops for community councillors on the theme of community and active travel.

The workshops will cover topics such as: - the impact of the cost of living crisis on our travel choices and behaviours, not just as individuals, but for the communities we live in. - what community organisations can do to take action on climate change. - how cars impact on community life and how communities can help reduce car use in their local area.

All the workshops are scheduled to take place on Wednesday evenings 6-7:30pm. The workshops have been designed for urban as well as rural and islands communities so members are advised to sign up for the workshops best suited to your community council.

To sign up, use the links to the forms in the table below.

<b>Workshop</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Sign-up link</b>
Cost of Living: Community and Active Travel (urban)	Weds 29 <sup>th</sup> March	<a href="https://forms.office.com/e/UhHw7ZJrCG">https://forms.office.com/e/UhHw7ZJrCG</a>

Climate: Community and Active Travel (rural & islands)	Weds 19 <sup>th</sup> April	<a href="https://forms.office.com/e/XAAWAGvWCe">https://forms.office.com/e/XAAWAGvWCe</a>
Climate Community and Active Travel (urban)	Weds 3 <sup>rd</sup> May	<a href="https://forms.office.com/e/3LZAY8GvLf">https://forms.office.com/e/3LZAY8GvLf</a>
Cars (rural & islands)	Weds 17 <sup>th</sup> May	<a href="https://forms.office.com/e/RcPPxX0ikk">https://forms.office.com/e/RcPPxX0ikk</a>
Cars (urban)	Weds 31 <sup>st</sup> May	<a href="https://forms.office.com/e/iRE52DyDxR">https://forms.office.com/e/iRE52DyDxR</a>

ACTION: Anyone who would like to attend a workshop to sign up to do so using the links supplied.

## 8. DA VOAR REDD UP 2023

The date for Da Voar Redd Up 2023 has been announced and this year the event will take place between 22nd -28th April 2023. Groups which participated in 2022 should have now received information regarding registration. New groups can register online at the Shetland Amenity Trust website.

The CC will be able to fund groups who do redd ups in the CC area if members decide to do so again and can also help by letting SAT know if they have ideas for locations to redd up. The SAT have asked Community Councils to let them know if there are any locations, not already covered by a community group in their area, that would benefit from a Redd Up. This information will then be passed on to new groups. Any ideas should be emailed with the location information and Ordnance Survey Grid Reference/s to: [info@shetlandamenity.or](mailto:info@shetlandamenity.or)

ACTION: Members to consider if there are any new locations which groups could redd up and pass the info back to SAT.

## 9. SETTLEMENT AUDITS FOR ACTIVE TRAVEL

This item was moved further up the agenda.

## 8. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

There were five planning applications, four of which were attached to the same address, and none of them required comment from members:

[2023/005/WL](#) To install a sea outfall to serve 4 houses. Greenmow, Cunningsburgh  
[2022/130/DCON1](#), [2](#), [3](#) and [4](#) Various applications for consent, agreement or approval, Plot 1, Greenmow, Cunningsburgh

## 9. AOCB

### 1. SEPA 2023 Opinion Survey

Members have until Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March to participate in a survey on the opinion of stakeholders in SEPA. The information was read and noted.

ACTION: Anyone who wished to complete an individual response to the survey please click [here](#) to start.

### 2. Funding from SSEN

Mrs Arnett has been in touch with SSEN about funding and is awaiting an update. She will feedback when she has further information.

ACTION: Mrs Arnett to update members when there is any feedback from SSEN on funding.

**10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting is on Wednesday March 29<sup>th</sup> 2023.  
Meeting Ends – 9.51 pm.

**CHAIR**

**11. OUTSTANDING ITEMS**

September 2021 – Heathery Park Path Clearing – a third meet-up to clear the last weeds off the path was unable to be organised. Members to look again in spring 2022.  
December 2022 – Roles of chair and vice chair to be reviewed at the June 2023 meeting.